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BROKAW: William Casey went back to Congress today trying to mend fences with the Senate Intelligence Committee. The subject, the CIA and Nicaragua. And as John Dancy reports tonight, he called to mind the bad kid who wants some forgiveness.

DANCY: CIA Director William Casey ducked reporters going into the meeting, perhaps because he knew he was taking a trip to the woodshed. The Senate is outraged about not being kept fully informed on the Nicaraguan port mining operation. Biden of Delaware drew this analogy. SEN. JOSEPH BIDEN (D-Del.): It's like when you go into, uh, when your son confesses to ya that he stole a gold chain, and you find out later there's a \$300 watch attached to it.

DANCY: Casey kept his distance from reporters after what was apparently a humbling experience. Senators say he was sharply questioned and criticized. Casey admitted he had not kept the committee fully informed, as he is required to do. SEN. RICHARD LUGAR (R-Ind.): Well, the director has apologized for oversights. He has assured us that it is his intention to work with us in bringing about new procedures...

DANCY: Those new procedures will include stringent new rules on how much the CIA must report to the committee in order to keep it fully informed of covert operations. Casey agreed the CIA will cooperate in drafting the rules. Casey's apology was enough to make New York Sen. Patrick Moynihan withdraw his resignation as committee vice chairman. He'd submitted the resignation to protest not being kept fully informed. SEN. DANIEL P. MOYNIHAN (D-N.Y.): I'm willing to forgive, but not to forget.

DANCY: This blowup has been a long time coming. The CIA has never liked the idea of reporting to the intelligence committee. But now, as a result of Casey's less-than-candid approach, it will probably be required to report more, more detail, more often. John Dancy, NBC News, at the U.S. Capitol.